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The New Amy Part 2

# **Editorial**

Everyone can use a mentor. Whether learning to tie your shoes when you're a tiny person, or trying your hand at gourmet cooking, someone to help you learn is always a useful thing.

When it comes to crossdressing some of us are lucky enough to have mentors. It's extremely frustrating trying to figure out how you apply eyeliner all by yourself. (With all the doors locked and bolted, and shades over every window.) It's much easier if you have someone to say, "No dummy. That's nowhere near a smooth line. Try it like this."

My mentor started out in my life as a girlfriend. Her name was Jayne. I met her right after I got divorced (crossdressing unknown, so not an issue) and it was lust at first sight. Shortly after we met, I felt it was important that she know about my crossdressing. I screwed up my courage and said, "Every now and then... I like to wear... a dress." Completely un-shocked she said, "OK."

That's when my crossdressing life came, not out of the closet, but at least out of the shoe box inside the duffel bag behind the big suitcase at the back of the closet. Now when I dressed up in the privacy of my own home I had someone to critique my efforts. I was no longer flying blind.

At first I was a little too macho to take her advice. I had come up with certain hideous makeup effects on my own and was reluctant to give them up. After a bit I realized Jayne had been wearing makeup a lot longer than I had, and it might be a good idea to listen to what she had to say. She also knew fashion and could offer tons of advice about what as wrong with my favorite outfit. Sometimes we all need a good wakeup call. Knickers? What was I thinking?

Jayne viewed shopping as blood sport. We spent countless hours in the malls and discount stores stalking the elusive bargain. The thrills of a safari could not have been greater than the joy of spotting the "Further Reductions Taken" sign on the clearance rack. I still get upset when I remem-

ber the little velvet jacket she got for \$5. It was too little for me, and there was an entire rack of them in her size. That day it was Jayne who made the big kill.

I could go on recounting our exploits in the shopping days of yore—the \$100 Geoffrey Beene scarf for a quarter, the stacks of pantyhose for ninety-nine cents a pair—all the great buys that made me, with Jayne as my mentor, the shopaholic I am today, but I have to move on to the point since my space is growing short.

Jayne stopped being a girlfriend and mentor and became a good friend and mentor. In college talks for years I called her the woman who made me the woman I am today. After years of her help and advice, her place in my life grew. She became my big sister. The one person to whom I could say anything or ask anything. We each had romantic affairs with other people, but our friendship and sisterhood grew through the years. I give thanks to whatever unseen force moves the universe that I had the chance to know Jayne.

Two years ago Jayne was diagnosed with breast cancer. She didn't smoke, was a vegetarian, and had no family history of cancer. For the past two years I hugged her, held her hand, took her shopping while she could still get out, and wished with all my might that someone could save her life. She was only 52. She passed away in November, early in the morning on the 22nd, and in my heart I felt her slip away. For all the good times and all the joy, God bless you Jayne. Since my hopes for a miracle cure did not come true, I now hope that you're some place better where every day there's a Clearance Sale.

Encourage your friends with breasts (female and TG) to get regular mammograms, and donate to charities that are working to eradicate cancer.

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Cover courtesy of Anndrea Daniels

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Publisher's Note: We've been trying to get Anndrea in the magazine since we first saw her photos in 1988. We are very pleased to finally have her grace our pages.

LL: When did you first consider crossdressing? **AD:** As the saying goes, I was born at an early age. And reborn at a fairly early age, too. I bought my first dress when I was in 9th grade. I was in my early twenties when I came to realize that Anndrea and Andy are both integral parts of me, and that I should try to figure out how to incorporate both into my life.

LL: You're fortunate to have come to grips with it at such an early stage in your life. Many folks don't deal with it till much later. Have you had any other lucky circumstances?

**AD:** Fortune truly smiled upon me about ten years ago when I stumbled onto a marvelous support group of about a half dozen women (GG), who have become some of my very most treasured friends. It is an interesting set of relationships, in that they are a diverse group, ranging from liberal to conservative. But most importantly, they are also very open minded people. Most of the time they see me in male mode—or drab. We do lunch, talk about absolutely anything, laugh (and occasionally cry) together. Every once in awhile we get together for a Girls Night Out. They each have been instrumental in helping me to find myself, accept myself, and develop different facets of my feminine persona. One of them is a tremendous costume artist, another is a creative genius; one is a wizard with hair and paint, still another is an extraordinarily level-headed gender professional.

LL: What are the things that really turn Anndrea on?
AD: A great truism is that "passions are rarely conventional," and that is clearly the case for me. I have a passion

# Anndrea Daniels

for performing, and I have been lucky enough to have had the opportunity to do it for the past seven years. Music and dance are the fuel for that passion. I am in heaven when Anndrea gets to dance, and it is best when it is an opportunity to perform at GLBT functions. I love the glamour look, and I love the fact that it can be taken in so many directions: western, salsa, disco, jazz, rock.

My love of glamour has been honed by attending lots of the functions of the Imperial Court here. The Court system, nationwide, is probably as accessible as glamour can be. The costumes and dresses, the hair and makeup, the musical numbers and pageantry are extraordinary. And some of the performers are so beautiful and so talented... they make me positively green with envy. (In a nice way, of course!)

**LL:** What other forums have given you a chance to display your femininity?

**AD:** As marvelous as the Courts are, the transgender community has developed some fantastic venues in the past twenty years, or so. From the Coming Together Con-



**LL:** It sounds like you've done it all.

AD: Not by any stretch of the imagination. (Perhaps JoAnn Roberts has, but not

continued next page





me!) I really want to go to Southern Comfort, Texas T-Party, California Dreamin' and several others. (Check the Events Calendar on page 39 for details on these activities.)

*LL:* What do you find most satisfying about these community events?

*AD:* For me, there are two tremendous aspects to these events. The first is that these are really educational programs. Classes range from the "how to's" of wardrobe, to the spirituality of gender, and everything in between. Whether transsexual, crossdresser, or whatever other label you may care to apply to yourself, there is a great deal to learn about every part of being a gender-gifted person.

LL: What other aspirations do you have?

*AD:* I really like the idea of doing outreach beyond the gender community. A few of my friends have done this, before college classes, or with community groups, and have reported it is very rewarding. I think it is important because we need to take advantage of every opportunity we have to represent ourselves positively beyond the confines of our own organizations. I think this is an area

where the Gay and Lesbian communities have been very successful, and we can do well to follow their example.

**LL:** You look so great, you must spend a lot of your time as Anndrea.

**AD:** You may be a tiny bit surprised to know that I am quite an infrequent dresser. If I dress ten days in a year, it is a very good year. So I plan my time very carefully... figuring that what I lose in quantity, I can, perhaps, gain in quality. This means that I go over wardrobe choices several times, hairstyles, shoes, accessories—everything. That, in its own way, is an aspect of my femininity, too.

*LL:* What was your best experience while dressed? *AD:* Everyone has stories about their best times dressed, and I have a couple of memorable ones, too. One is a good



time/bad time, all mixed up into one. On one of my very early excursions, I went to a gay community function, and afterward joined a group of friends at a local, late-night restaurant. I was wearing a fitted, black lace, full-length formal. When I got up to leave, two guys (very macho), who were entering the place, held open the doors for me. Both gave me a good inspection, and one said, "Mama, I've just got to say that you look really hot!"

Soaring on wings of elation from this compliment, I replied—without thinking—in my unmodified male voice, "Gee, thanks very much! What a nice thing to say!"

Poor guy! His friends laughed at him uproariously. I thought he was going to die of embarrassment. I felt so badly for him, because it was easy to imagine that he was mercilessly teased for the rest of the evening, at least.

**LL:** And memory number two...?

**AD:** My favorite memory was becoming Miss Fall Harvest in 1995. In addition to the great fun of doing a pageant and meeting lots of community people it's given me a chance to talk to quite a few straight folks, too. As nearly





everyone is aware, women are generally more accepting of us than guys are. (Face it, we threaten some people's notions of what it means to be a guy!) But interestingly, when women are around, guys usually take their lead on how to act from the women's reaction.

*LL:* Now, tell us about the flip side. What was your worst time dressed?

**AD:** My worst experience happened when I wasn't even dressed! It was a Sunday morning and I'd just come back from a gender event. I was putting my wardrobe away in my rented storage space. However, my space was sublet. And as it turned out, the building owner evidently hadn't been told that gender people were using lockers in the basement of his building. He only saw a guy carrying suitcases into and out of his building. Long story short, he called the police. I debated my options, and finally told the officer in charge (three units had responded on this slow Sunday morning) exactly who I was and what I was doing there. I

continued next page







showed him enough (dresses and the like) to confirm my story, and I was allowed to go. I also admitted to the officers that I'd be very grateful for any discretion that might be shown when the time came for them to write up their incident report. Looking back, I feel certain that someone in our community had done outreach to that police department at some earlier time, and I am truly blessed. A few weeks later, I asked for a copy of the report, and there wasn't any report at all, other than to state that the matter had been investigated and resolved

**LL:** We're almost out of space, since we ran so many of your beautiful photos. How about giving us a good story to close the interview?



**AD:** Well, looking back, one experience I had is now very funny. I was very young, and very confused about my gender flexibility. So, in a fit of adolescent panic, I called a gay crisis line, and blurted out, "I think I may be a transvestite!" There was a two beat pause, and the voice at the other end of the line, in a Cheshire voice, replied, "My, you **do** have a problem, don't you?"

Problem? Now I like to think that it is a gift.



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# GirlTalk

with JoAnn Roberts

Girl Talk is your forum. Any question on any topic is fair game, from makeup secrets to the psychology of transgendered behavior. If I don't have an answer. I'll find someone who does. Write me care of this magazine with your questions.

Dear JoAnn

I have a problem that I would appreciate your advice on. The lower part of my face, the jaw area, is very wide. Any suggestions? Is it my hair, my makeup, or should I just stop going out? I'm desperate.

Teri, Ore.

Dear Teri.

To lessen the effect of a wide jawline you need to make it seem thinner and less prominent. You do that by shading along the sides of the jaw with contour powder or a foundation 2 shades darker than your regular base. You have to blend this very well so there is no distinct line.

Looking at your photo, I would suggest you change your hairstyle and possibly your color as well. The Pageboy does nothing for you. You need more volume to balance the width in your face. A lighter color will make you look younger, too. I suggest you contact a good wig stylist so you can try on different styles and colors to see what works best for you.

Stop going out? Shirley you jest! Do the absolute best you can with your image and then don't worry about what other people think. Go out, have a good time, enjoy life!

Dear JoAnn, Please comment about nose hair, Tania. Fla.

Dear Tanja,

What is there to comment on? Nose hair is gross! Clip it or pluck it, but do not allow hair to stick out of your nose, no matter how you are dressed. Yuck!

Dear JoAnn,

Because of my job I can't pluck my eyebrows or shave my arms. What do you suggest?

Rhonda, Ohio

Dear Rhonda.

You only think you can't pluck your eyebrows, but I'll bet

they're shaggy enough to warrant some conservative shaping that no one will notice. Then, when you dress and wear a wig use the tape trick below to reshape your brows into a more feminine arch.

The tape trick requires clear plastic medical tape found in any drug store. I use the Johnson & Johnson brand. First, clean your forehead with a cotton ball and alcohol. Pat dry with a tissue. Tear off a piece of medical tape about oneeighth of an inch wide and about 3 inches long. Decide where you want the arch of your brow to be and press down one end of the tape about one-quarter of an inch above the brow at that point. Now pull up on the tape and press it down onto your forehead and up into your hairline (the less hair you have for this trick the better, otherwise use a wig cap). Repeat for the other side. Take care to match the arch on both sides. Finally, cover the tape when you do your foundation. Unless someone is right on top of you, they will not notice the tape reshaping your brows. Experiment with the placement of the tape and notice how different your face looks with each different location. See the figure below.

As for arm hair, the only thing you can do short of shaving it is to bleach it lighter.



The tape trick to reshape eyebrows. The tape here is white for clarity. Use transparent medical tape.

Dear JoAnn.

On page 39 of Art & Illusion, Vol. 1, there is a reference to Jacquelyn wigs. Is this the name of a salon/boutique or the name of a manufacturer/brand. Is this wig available anywhere or just at one location?

Melinda C., Texas.

Dear Melinda.

Jacquelyn is a brand name for a specific line of wigs. These are very high quality wigs that come in synthetic hair, human hair, and blends of both. I personally own a dozen Jacquelyn wigs. I love them and I almost always get compli-

ments on my hair. Invariably someone asks if it's my real hair.

Jacquelyn wigs are carried by the finer salons. The main showroom is located in New York City. You can call to find out where you can buy a Jacquelyn in your local area: 800-272-2424, or 212-302-2266 (in NYC).

Dear JoAnn.

Okay, I give up. I see so many girls in the magazine with smooth fronts. I am insanely jealous! How do they do that? Where do you tuck your "equipment."

Lana, Ore.

Dear Lana.

See those breasts? Well, if you push real hard...

No, I'm just kidding. There are several ways to tuck the genitals so they don't show. In RuPaul's Lettin It All Hang Out, he describes what he calls the "fiercest" tuck. He pushes everything, penis and testicles, back between his legs and then holds it all in place with very tight spandex panties. You can get the same effect with a gaff sold by many of our advertisers.

Contrary to what Ru thinks, this is definitely not the fiercest tuck possible. An even better tuck results if you can push your testicles up into your body. There is a cavity just behind the pubis bone and the testicles will go up there quite nicely if you gently push. Once inside, you finish off the tuck as above, penis between legs. Or you can take the ultimate route and create the "Instant Sex Change" as described in Art & Illusion: A Guide to Crossdressing, Volume 2, which also shows you how to create dynamite cleavage.

Dear JoAnn,

In issue Nº31 you recommended to Viki wearing two pairs of pantyhose if you can't shave your legs. May I suggest using Dan-skins tights in tan or beige. They're a little more expensive than pantyhose but more durable and can be machine washed and dried in a dryer.

Linda A.

Thanks for the tip Linda! Stay frosty! JoAnn





# A Tasteful Magazine for Crossdressers





LadyLike is the publication that treats the subjects of transvestism and crossdressing as they should be treated, with respect and sophistication. Chock full of great features and loads of photos, you won't want to miss a single issue. Every issue contains important and useful information to help you realize the "ladylike" qualities within yourself.

Subscription Rates: U.S. — \$32; Canada/Mexico — \$40; Overseas — \$52 Single issues: U.S. — \$11; Canada/Mexico — \$13; Overseas —\$15

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# Letters & S.32 E US. POSTAGE

# Feels Great About Her Photo

Dear JoAnn and Angela,

Just a little note to say thanks for putting out the best magazine for cross-dressers. I don't think there is anything better than *LadyLike*.

Also, thanks for running a picture of me in #29 on page 24. I know a lot of the girls are better looking than me, but it still made me feel great when I saw the picture. Enclosed you will find a few more pictures of me if you would like to print them, also.



Thanks for everything and keep up the good work!

Love Jennifer Sheridan PO Box 687 Union, NJ 07083

# Mom & Sis Wanted A Girl

Dear JoAnn,

First let me thank you for your wonderful magazine which means so much to me. It has helped me in so many ways toward becoming the feminine woman I so want to be. I also wish to thank you for putting my picture in *Then & Now,* issue #29.

My sister and mom had wanted me to be a girl. As a consequence, they

dressed me in my sister's clothes and always called me Diana. I only played with other little girls and thought that I was a girl until I started school. It was a horrible shock to have to dress as a boy. I hated it and took every opportunity to get back into a pretty dress and my Mary Janes. And so has it been all my life. I adore feminine attire, putting on my makeup, being a woman.

I want to compliment you on your lovely appearance. You are so much more feminine than most genetic girls. You should be very proud of your lovely creation. You are the lady I am striving to become. I am so envious of your lovely figure and gorgeous face.

Keep up the good work. We girls need your help in becoming completely LadyLike.

Love, Diana

[Ed. Note: I guess that Art & Illusion stuff really works. Ya oughta see JoAnn on a butch day!]

# **Loved Attending Congress**

Dear JoAnn,

It was nice seeing you again at the Congress on Sex and Gender Issues last month. Seeing you in "drab" the last day shows me just how perfect you are in the art of illusion. You're awesome!

I wanted to tell you that you did a supremely excellent job with the Congress. It was informative, professional, and exciting. As a psychology graduate student, I found the sharing of knowledge and experience invigorating and essential to the development of the field with regard to both coun-



seling and research. Although some very and even conflicting viewpoints were presented, I believe that everyone walked away with a little more than they arrived with, be it the adoption of new ideas or the further development of their own line of thinking. It is vital that these talks continue as the study of transgenderism is still in its infancy and there remains so much that needs to be addressed.

Now for some fun stuff Thanks for your response in LadyLike #30 and for printing my picture. You can ditch that picture though because I went on a mad photo spree and ended up with some much better pictures which I'm sending you and Angela for either the Then and Now feature or Mirror, Mirror. One is a picture of me dressed en femme for the very first time back when I was five years old in 1967. The little "boy" in it is actually my younger sister who knows all about my crossdressing and told me that it'd be cool to send to you. The other two are from this year—one from a studio and the other that my girlfriend took at the beach. Use them as you wish.

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# Send *your* Photos

The most frequent praise we get here at LadyLike Magazine is, "Your girls are the best!" The most frequent request we get is, "Can I write to -----?" So, we're responding to what our readers want. If you include your mailing name and mailing address on the back of your photos, we will print your address with your photo in the magazine so people can write to you directly. If you want us to forward mail for you and you are a subscriber, include \$10 and we'll assign you a number and forward any mail for you for one year.

If you want to write to someone whose picture appears in the magazine, look for an address and write directly. Or, look for a forwarding number like FWD9999 with the photo. If there's an FWD number, write your letter, put it in a #9 envelope and in pencil write the FWD number on the front. For each letter to be forwarded, put your letter, the #9 envelope, correct postage in stamps and \$2 in another envelope (#10 or larger) and mail it all to us here at LadyLike Magazine, c/o PO Box 61263, King of Prussia, PA 19406-1263.



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Anyway, best wishes to you and I hope to see you at Southern Comfort! Revy!

P.S. I miss the column you used to write for *Cross-Talk*. Have you thought about transferring it to LadyLike? That would be most cool!

Dear Revy,

I'm glad you could make it for the Congress. We're going to do it again in the year 2000. Check out your photos in Then & Now in this issue. I still write that column in print for Renaissance News & Views and online for Transgender Forum.

# Worried About Being Skipped

Dear JoAnn,

Received long awaited issue #31 yesterday. It was most welcome. I had called several times last week and left messages. My concern was that I was skipped. One of my fears is that Lady-Like would cease publishing. And if finances ever become intolerable, please don't hesitate to increase prices, at double the price I will still support you. And if donations were asked for, I would respond, and I'm sure others would also. You're just too damn good to go under. I won't add my accolades to the many you must surely receive. Just let me say YOU GO, GIRL!

As per your request as to where I obtain TV publications. I prefer the reliability of subscribing plus I think that I receive publications sooner than purchasing them from second parties. As a side note, even though I have contacted a dozen or so suppliers over the last couple of years, I still have not obtained issues 1 thru 6 of *LadyLike*, I've about given up.

I feel that providing access to the girls is one of the best ideas yet. If I ever get the courage to send a photo I would definitely include an address.



I decided to write you a letter and write I did, it doesn't matter that I have rambled a bit, its MY letter. I read every word in LL including the page numbers (to reassure myself that I haven't missed a page). I patronize your advertisers, I feel very connected to both Angela and JoAnn, but never to the point of intrusion. I greatly admire all the LL girls, even the "less-than-glamourous" ones.

Ellen McKinnon PO Box 261326 San Diego, CA 92196

Ellen,

Thank you for your generous praise. We do our best. And, your suggestions were pretty good. Feel free to send more. Keep checking those page numbers (in case we mess up), and thanks for supporting LadyLike. The photos you sent were great but they got messed up because you wrote on them in ballpoint pen. Then ink transfers to the photo in front and then we have your gorgeous face with reverse writing all over it. In the future, only use permanent ink on the photo.

# All The Way From Hawaii

Aloha!

What a thrill it was to learn you had chosen me to be your covergirl (LL#30). Being a simple country girl living on an island in the middle of the Pacific

Ocean doesn't give a big "six footer" like myself many opportunities for high profile exposure. So, as we say in Hawaii, "mahalo," for the privilege of appearing on the cover of your tasteful publication.

I began my career as a gender illusionist in Denver, Colorado in the early '80s, playing every honky tonk that would have me. I then moved to Las Vegas to work in the Riviera's hit show "An Evening At La Cage." I began working as Frank Marino's dresser before becoming a bonafide showgirl and doing celebrity lookalikes.

I then moved to L.A. for a time, before moving to the beautiful island of Maui, where I'm currently living. I've hosted a female impersonator review called The Cosmetix for the past four years, receiving rave reviews. "Big girls equals big fun" is our motto here in the South Seas!

If any of your readers would like to contact me personally, they can reach me at: Guava Chiffon, PO Box 895, Kula, HI 96790, or email me c/o <mauimary@t-link.net>.

Again, a big heartfelt aloha and mahalo!

Sincerely, Guava Chiffon



See this photo in color on page 21.

continued on page 16



# We're Delightfully Different

Dear JoAnn,

Hello, my name is Rhonda. I hardly now where to begin, but first let me say that you look just beautiful, and that your magazine is just wonderful, too. I purchased issue #30 (my first one) and read it cover to cover. I was very impressed by the articles, tips, and photos of the ladies in the *Mirror*, *Mirror* section. I especially like the article and photo layout of Sharon Davidson. Wow... she is fantastic! Your magazine is delightfully different from the other I am used to reading, and seems much more caring and personal.

I have been dressing up for quite a while now, but I have never ventured out in public. My nyloned knees knock at the very thought of it! However, since this would be a major step for me, I would appreciate any information that your could send me about Paradise in the Poconos, the getaway weekend for crossdressers.

Do you have, or could your magazine publish a listing of clubs in the Ohio/Pennsylvania area that cater to the transgendered lifestyle? I have no idea where I could go to meet others like myself. I'm looking for some nightlife rather than support groups. I've never been out to a club like this, but I'm sure they must exist! Or do they? Maybe your readers could com-

ment on this? Also, I have a question that you might be able to answer in Girl Talk. Due to my job I can't pluck my eyebrows or shave my arms. What is the best way to address these problem areas, other than hair removal? Thank you so much,

All dressed up, and no place to go—Rhonda.

Rhonda,

There are clubs that cater just to girls like us, but you will have to move to New York or L.A.. In your area the only alternative is gay clubs that have drag nights. You say you aren't interested in support groups, but the best place to find others like yourself and learn about the local nightlife is to attend at least a few support group meetings. Check our resource pages for groups near you. Cross-Port, Crystal Club and Transpitt spring to mind. The members of those groups can give you all the info you will need on places to go, and maybe they'll be able to help you gain the confidence to get out and about.

Hair! Arrgh! The never ending dilemma for the crossdresser. You have two choices: Cover yourself up, (which doesn't work too well in the Summer, since a girl in long sleeves and a turtleneck attracts attention) or start thinning it out slowly, over a period of time, by plucking and thinning. If you do this over a least several months almost no one will notice that you are hairless. Same goes for brows. You can thin them slowly and as long as you keep them that way no one will notice. Also, you don't have to go that thin on your brows. Thank God for Brooke Shields! Get them to a reasonable point and then use clear mascara to paste them down into a thinner line. You can also put makeup over them to make them less prominent. This works

best at night, and it doesn't sound as if you're planing any morning trips to the mall. Again, the girls at the local support groups can share their techniques. Enjoy!

Dear Angela,

I obtained a copy of LadyLike #30 a couple of days ago and it's the type (of magazine) I've been looking for a long while. My interest in crossdressing has been many years, but it was not until nine years ago that I persuaded my wife to let me do so. She was strictly against [it] at first but she was 100% happy.

At the end of last March she passed away so now I'm dressing more. My neighbor has been the only one to see me dressed, so I'm a closet dresser. One thing more before I write a novel, I doubt very much whether I'll be venturing outside much because I am a senior citizen (70), so I've come into being a CD rather late in life.

Thanks for listening, so to speak. Keep publishing, Michelle

Michelle,

Being 70 it's the perfect time for you to get out enfemme. Younger girls tend to get attention (particularly if they have great legs) and with increased attention comes the greater chance of detection. Older women don't have that problem, and while that may bother the real older women, the older crossdresser can feel more secure that no none will hit on her, or cause her any trouble. Just go where other older women go... and make sure you hold on to your purse. Older women are more of a target for purse snatchers. If your neighbor has already seen you then you're halfway out of the closet already. Get out and enjoy

▲ Signing the register. Below: The members of the wedding party. Note the "Maids" of Honor.▼



▼ Paddy (I) and Roxy (r)



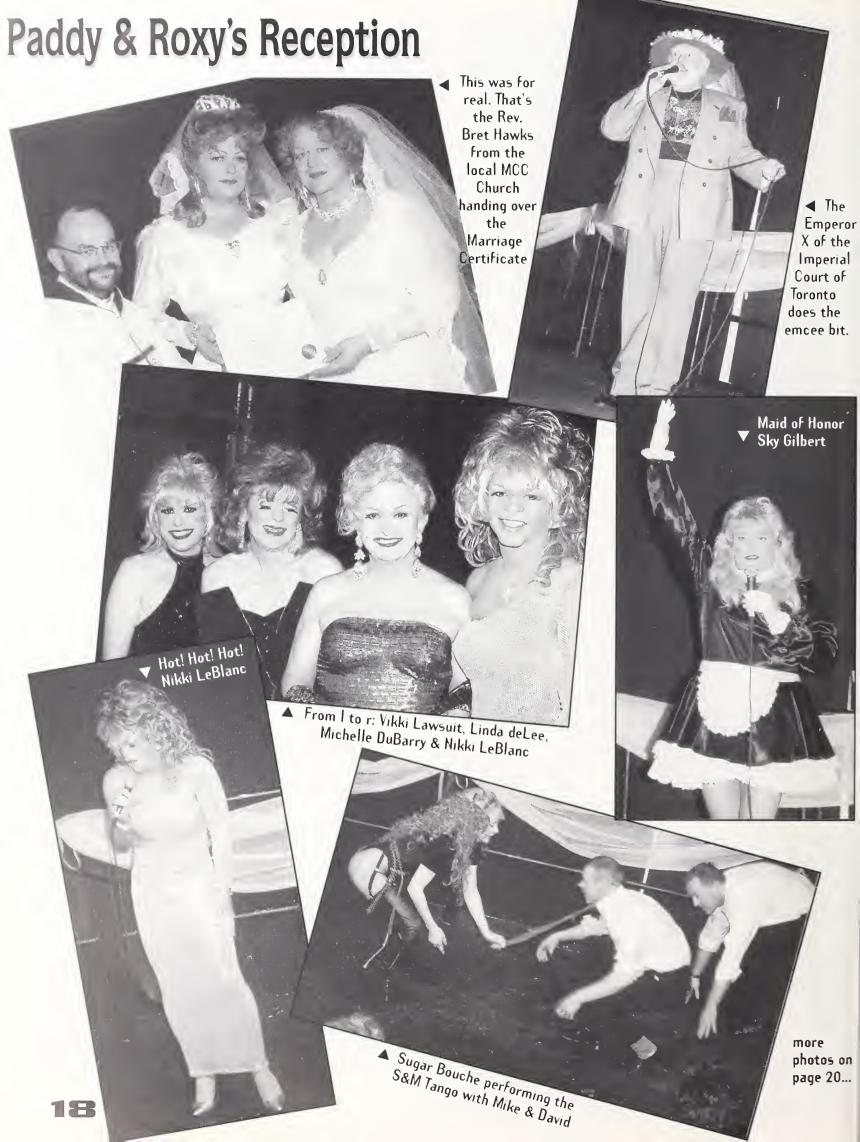
# Paddy & Roxy Get Married

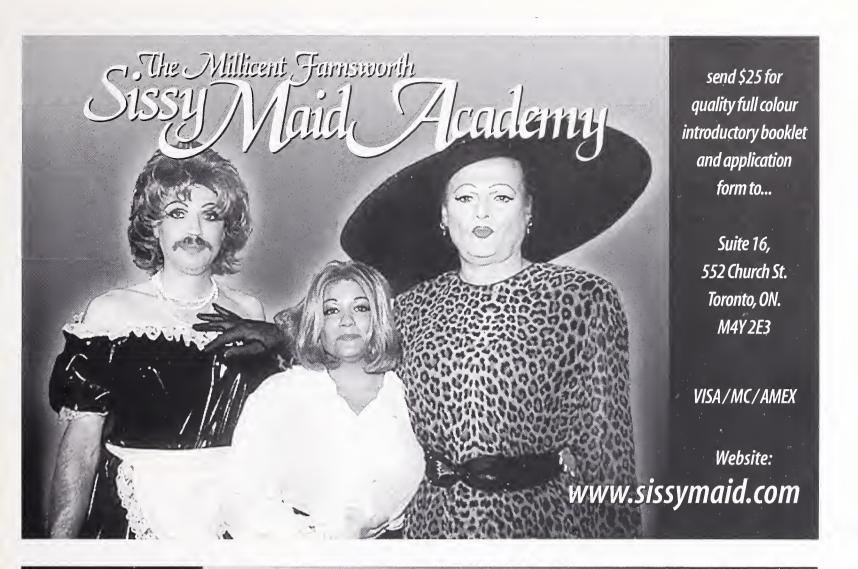
My good friends Paddy Aldridge and Tom/Roxy from Toronto, Ontario, decided to tie the knot last year. I couldn't attend the ceremonies, so they were kind enough to provide photos so we can all share the joy and fun they had on February 16, 1997.



Lessee, a nip here, a tuck there. Who's wearing the cream satin pumps today? Hey, did you see my boob? It was right here. ▼







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Paddy & Roxy's Reception



Michelle DuBarry, Former Empress A



Nikki LeBlanc A



Sugar Bouche ▼



Loren Michaels A



more photos on page 23...

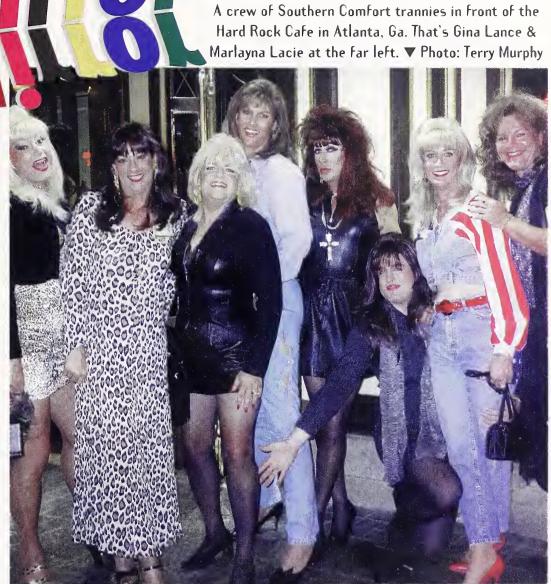




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# Hittol



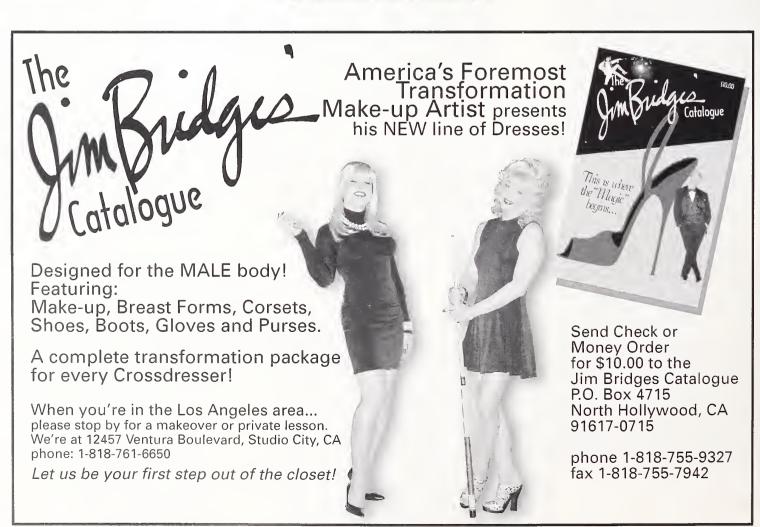




Terri, Minn., FWD3133



◆Fran Morgan, PO Box 16523, Rochester, NY 14616





■ The maids all want a piece of the cake.

Paddy & Roxy kiss after the ceremony ▼





▲ The crew from TAB magazine check it out (l. to r.) Melissa, Michael & Susan. ▼ Loren Michael



Here come the brides! The ceremony took place at the Buddies In Bad Times Theatre.  $\blacksquare$ 



Paddy & Roxy's Wedding



Ms. Barbara of Improper Attire ▲ (see page 30)



Jennifer, PO Box 36812, Grosse Pointe, MI 48236 ▲



Beverly, Mich. A







Jeri Jones, PO Box 9215, Salt Lake City, UT 84109 A





Rachel Lane, Ind. FWD2284 ▲



Send Nora Keaton, Wash., D.C. A Solution of the Solution of th



# Leg Show



J.M., PO Box 6120-331, Newport Bch, CA 92568

# Bob Davis & Carol Kleinmaier

Flaming Youth

Was the camera invented by a crossdresser? If not, it should have been. No group takes, saves, exchanges, publishes or looks at more photos of themselves than

crossdressers. Actors and politi-

cians have their photos taken on a daily basis; that's part of the job. They don't cherish and horde each image. Families fill photo albums with loved ones and vacation shots, but not doz-

of pictures of

themselves posing in motel rooms in front of drawndrapes. Narcissus had still water to reflect his beauty, but for the crossdresser the

camera is the perfect mirror.

The evidence is everywhere. Let's examine a prominent men's publication promoting pulchritude, LadyLike #30. In its 48 pages there are 142 photos of crossdressers. Crossdressers appeared on all but 11 pages and most of those pagers featured photos of high heels, breast forms or women modeling clothing intended for crossdressers. Were 142 photos enough? Maybe not. Publisher JoAnn Roberts apologized for the lack of photos in the Letters to the Editor section, saying they were damaged before they could be printed. These letters tell us plenty about the importance of photos. Six out of ten letters mentioned photos. One reader, Jeri, wrote that "the first thing I do when I receive a new issue of LadyLike is scan the pages with anxious anticipation, hoping that I was included in the Mirror Mirror section." Mirror Mirror, composed of readers' photos, is always the longest feature, 8 pages in issue #30.

But, not all is vanity. It seems *LadyLike* readers enjoy seeing the photos of other queens, too. Letter writer Edith offered to buy photos of other crossdressers by the 10's or 20's. And in the previous issue, #29 (160 photos), Elaine offered "an unsolicited suggestion... more photos of your readers." Would 200 photos be enough in 48 pages? 300? Can there ever be enough?

This love our own feminine image no doubt inspired these home photos from the 1920's. We crossdressers haven't changed all that much. The surprise is that we don't see more old photos. But, closeted crossdressers, especially in less enlightened times, may have destroyed their photos and femme clothes as they get older, rather than risk detection after their death. (This is how one senior cross-

dresser explained selling his collection of magazines to me in 1992.) And many a wife or heir has burned secreted wardrobes, treasured theater programs and scandalous photos of Daddy in dresses.

Though these photos survived untold hardship and adversity, their story did not. There are very few facts available about either the photos or the people in them. These shots are from a set of 18 photos purchased from a dealer in the San Francisco Bay area. All he would say was that he bought them from another dealer who bought them

at some kind of sale in the Pacific Northwest. (Dealers can be so coy.) Like many photos from the 1920's, these may be used post cards and

have a place for address and message on the back.

Lacking the facts, then, let's call the male transvestite "Bea" when he's in drag, in honor of 20's star Beatrice Lillie and Ben when he's in drab. (drag = dressed as girl, drab = dressed as boy) From the photos of Ben in drab we can learn several things. He is a young man. If he were a girl, he'd be a flapper. But, as things are older and steadier citizens would identify him with

that group called "flaming youth." From a close-up you can tell that he follows several styles associated with idle college boys of this era. He plucks his eyebrows and wears some traces of make-up, a bit of blush, some shadow, a hint of lipstick. His clothes are tailored and in one photo he's holding a long cigarette holder. However, in drag he's more relaxed. He smiles more broadly. As Bea, Ben seems more serious and

The crossdressing woman we'll call Pete after Peter Pan. Her style of dress is common for women impersonating boys on stage and screen. Silent film star Mae Murray wore a similar guise in

self-conscious, reserved.





the 1918 film *Danger, Go Slow,* as did Mary Pickford in *The Hood-lum,* 1919. Pete seems a bit taller than Bea/Ben. Since Pete's coat sleeves are a bit short we might wonder if Pete borrowed Ben's coat? These photos are significant because they tell that Bea and Pete are out about their crossdressing to each other and to the unknown third person behind the camera.

One summer's day this little support group went to the beach. What an exciting outing it must have been! The beach was deserted. Bea had a fully matching ensemble: checkered dress, wig, hat, coat, purse, low heeled shoes, parasol and even lace garters. Bea seems a bit reserved. Though she

honors us with a little smile when sitting next to dashing Pete.

On the back of one photo is a drawing of an idealized 1920's flapper. Bea's work? I know several crossdressers who draw hundreds of pictures of fabulous women or other queens. Candy Darling, Andy Warhol's superstar, did it. There's pages of her drawings in her recently published book of diaries, *My Face for the World to See*. Doris Fish, an Australian who was San Francisco's reigning diva of drag during the 1980's, would doodle incessantly when talking on the phone. She didn't do full figures as often as faces or even just glamorous eyes. Candy drew things like this also. You'll have to buy Candy's book to see her drawings.

Notice the little details in Bea's outfit, like the lace garters revealed as she and Pete embrace. What do you think? Is Bea wearing

woman's undergarments? Have you ever heard the old transgendered Wives Tale that you can tell a transvestite from a drag

queen by
their
undies.
When
dressed a
drag
queen
will still
wear her
regular
jockeys,

but a transvestite will

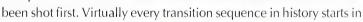
be femme

from the skin out. A year later, 1923, Bea and an





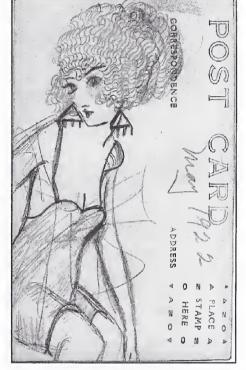
unseen photographer had another session. It's summer again, but this time they stay near the house on the porch and in the yard. Is Pete behind the lens? Or is it the same photographer as last year? Or someone else? Is Bea coming out to more people? For whatever reason Bea seems more relaxed. Her outfits are a bit more revealing. She bares some skin and poses seductively with a coat draped around her white shoulders. The drab photos must have



the biological gender. Anyway, who would want to get all dressed and made-up and not have any time to flounce around afterward? Waste of good drag, that.

Though we can guess a few things about Bea and Pete, they remain largely a mystery. There's always the hope that a reader may recognize the people or the location. "My God! Look a this, Marge. Its Uncle Harry and Aunt Phyllis at Bon-Bon Beach!!" But, that doesn't seem very likely.

All we really know is that Pete and Bea, our spiritual ancestors, went to the beach on a summer's day about 75 years ago. And that Bea enjoyed dressing-up so much that she posed for more photos a year later.



Teeje, PO Box 9525, ▲ Glendale, CA 91226-0525

### Michelle W, FWD2281 ▼



# A CONTROLL OF THE PARTY OF THE



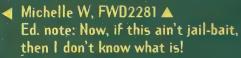
▲ If this pose looks familiar, it's because Teeje has recreated Chris Achilleos' 1987 painting of an Amazon titled "Heroic Dream"



Teeje A

If you want to write to someone whose picture appears in the magazine, look for an address and write directly. Or, look for a forwarding number like FWD9999 next to the photo. If there's an FWD number, write your letter, put it in a #9 envelope and *in pencil* write the FWD number on the front. For each letter to be forwarded, put your letter, the #9 envelope, correct postage in stamps and \$2 in another envelope (#10 or larger) and mail them to us at LadyLike Magazine, PO Box 61263, King of Prussia, PA 19406-1263. *SORRY, if there is no address or FWD number, we cannot forward your letter.* 













Kristin S., 360-33 W Schick Rd, Nº177, Bloomingdale, 1L 60108 🛕



JoAnn Worth, PO Box 13212, LaJolla CA 92039



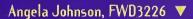
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TOP ROW: Left – SKINTWO V-neck Dress \$115, Latex gloves \$45, Latex stockings \$60 (model Mistress Barbara); Center – Sinsation Satin Mistress Dress \$150 (model Anja); Right – Sinsation Satin Baby Doll \$115

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BOTTOM ROW: Left—Northbound Leather Halter Dress \$234, Winged Gauntlets \$101 (model Carrie); Center — Sinsational Satin Maid's Uniform \$135; Right — Northbound Leather Corset \$216, Stormy Leather Bra \$46 (model Mistress Barbara)

Improper Atritre is owned and operated by Mistress Barbara (lower right). She is 6' 5" tall and the items she is wearing are far from the largest we carry. Mistress Barbara is available for sessions in S/M, B/D & Transformations. Photos by LEDA and Mark Richards.





Danielle, III. 🛦



C. G., Miamí., Fla. 🛦



°Cíndy, Wash. ▲

# Histor

Alíson, Colo. ▼



June, NY ▲

Dee, Fla. ▼







Akihro Miwa A See review next page





Susan Wallace ▲
PO Box 731, Farmingville NY 11738



Akihro Miwa 🔺



PARCO 西武劇場

Frank Marino 🔺



■ JoAnn Roberts (I.) & Michelle W, Va.(r.)



# THE REVIEWS Crossdressing at the movies with Laurie Ann



In the post few years there have been a number of films with transgender themes or octors ploying o tronsgendered person. The Crying Game; Priscilla, Queen of the Desert; To Wong Foo..., and M. Butterfly are recent releases that have ochieved some degree of occloim.

Although there are many more transgender oriented films today, there have been o number of such films since the 1960s. Most were the efforts of independent film mokers. Most were low budget and often had obvious technical and octing flows. Almost all of them had minor and very brief theotrical exposure and quickly faded from sight.

Mony of these half-forgotten films have recently been transferred to video tape and ore available from video sources that specialize in cult and obscure cinema. This column will review some of the lesser known films. You may find, as I have, that most of these films are not only fun and entertaining to watch, but they also offer some interesting insights about one of our favorite subjects — crossdressing.

# Black Lizzard

In 1968 a rather curious Japanese film, *Black Lizzard*, was released. Some critics said the film was an attempt by the producer to create something different, and to appeal to "bizarre taste." *Black Lizzard* received mediocre reviews. It probably would have sunk into obscurity if it were not for two people: Akihro Mayuyama, now known as Akihro Miwa, and Yukio Mishima. Miwa is the star of the film, playing the Black Lizzard. Mishima adapted the 1934 novel by Rampo Edogawa for the theater, and the film. Mishima also makes a cameo appearance in the film.

Miwa and Mishima are two incredibly unique and fascinating people. Miwa is now sixty-two years old, and is Japan's most famous female impersonator. She continues to have a large cult following and just recently directed and starred in a stage version of Black Lizzard.

Yukio Mishima is considered to be Japan's greatest contemporary author. Mishima and Miwa were lovers. Mishima's life is so incredible that Francis Ford Coppola and George Lucas produced the 1985 film *Mishima, A Life In Four Chapters*. The film won three awards at the Cannes Film Festival.

Akiro Miwa's career has also been very remarkable. In fact, Miwa and the famous English mimic Danny LaRue have much in common. Both have achieved considerable success in legitimate theater, film and popular recordings. In *Black Lizzard* you'll see

Miwa's fabulous collection of gowns and wigs, just as Danny LaRue showed of his collection in *Operation Fred*. Unlike Danny, Miwa fully admits to enjoying dressing, and does so regularly in public.

Miwa was born in 1935 in Nagasaki, Japan. Her mother died when she was a child and her step mother was killed in the atomic attack in 1945.



Miwa was out of the city at the time. Miwa has regarded herself as a "Shisutah Bohi," a "Sister-Boy," another interesting term for she-male. Early on Miwa was interested in the arts and for a time was enrolled in an academy of music in Tokyo.

Attracted to the night life, Miwa quit school and supported herself by selling her personal beauty, as a girl or boy, to male

continued next page



admirers. Pictures of Miwa in her twenties reveal an exceptionally pretty, feminine boy who easily could become a pretty girl, with little or no effort.

Miwa has a beautiful feminine singing voice and in 1954 she was hired as a singer in the Chanson De Gin Paris, a very popular Tokyo night spot. She was an instant success

and soon became famous. In 1957 Miwa made her first recording, which was a big hit. The press praised her singing and beauty, saying Miwa was "the most beautiful boy since the dawn of history." That is quite a remarkable accolade given to a young "Sister-Boy" by the popular press.

The Gin Paris closed its doors in 1990 after being an "in" spot for thirty-six years. Miwa's fans formed a line over three hundred meters long to listen to her songs one last time at the Gin Paris. Such adulation is testimony to Miwa's cult status in Japan.

The Gin Paris was the "IN" place for many celebrities in the late 50's and 60's. Mishima was one of those celebrities. He had read Edogawa's Black Lizzard as a boy and had been very impressed with the novel. In 1961 he wrote a play based on the novel. It was very successful and starred five different actors and actresses as Black Lizzard. When he saw Miwa perform at the Gin Paris, he knew she was his Black Lizzard. At first Miwa rejected Mishima's romantic interests, as was well as the starring role in the film, but his persistence paid off and Miwa finally accepted both offers.

Black Lizzard is the story of an exotic femme fatale whose pleasures are collecting art, rare and priceless jewelry, and beautiful males and females who she turns into stuffed dolls for her museum on an isolated island retreat. She is a parody of those unique adversaries so typical in the Batman and Superman films and comics.

Black Lizzard's nemesis is private detective Korgoro Akechi, played by Isao Kimura. He is "Japan's greatest detective." Although he plays the role in an understated manner, he is deceptively shrewd, clever and generally one step ahead of Black Lizzard.

The story begins with detective Akechi going to a night club

that "I never knew existed." It is the type of club that encourages a wide variety of sexual expression. The walls are decorated in psychedelic colors, interspersed with illustrations by the artist Aubrey Beardsley, who is famous for his bizarre renditions of androgynous males and beautiful but dangerous females.



Black Lizzard makes her entrance as the star of the club, wearing a beautiful gown and singing in her own voice. She is attracted to Akechi, who is sitting at the bar. Her attempts at seduction are resisted. Instead of a romance, a cat and mouse game has begun.

Black Lizzard wants to add "The Star of Egypt," a rare and dazzling diamond necklace, to her collection. This rare jewel is owned by Iwase, a wealthy jewel merchant. To obtain this fabulous necklace Black Lizzard plans to kidnap Iwase's beautiful daughter Sanae and demand the fabulous jewel in ransom. Iwase has been alerted to the plot and has hired Akechi to prevent it from happening.

The first attempt is only partially successful. Although Sanae is kidnapped, Akechi is one step ahead of the kidnappers. His men retrieve her... but Black Lizzard (disguised as a young man) escapes and tries another, more cleverly orchestrated kidnap attempt which succeeds. A distraught Iwase meets Black Lizzard's demand and gives her "The Star of Egypt." But, she does not return the lovely Sanae. Instead, Black Lizzard has decided to make Sanae another one of her frozen museum dolls.

Sailing to her secret island hideaway, Black Lizzard assumes she has killed Akechi, but he has not been killed and has hidden himself on board the ship. Arriving on the island he rescues Sanae and attempts to apprehend Black Lizzard. She senses she has been defeated and takes poison rather than go to prison. In a melodramatic ending she dies in his arms as her mourns her loss.

This is a fast paced, entertaining cult film that is well acted and fun to watch. Most viewers would not detect Miwa's true gender, as she appears to be a lovely young woman. Miwa is a very good actress, although she occasionally overacts. The film is letter boxed and has clear subtitles. Pay attention to the verbal fencing

between Akechi and Black Lizzard. It is full of philosophical gems about life, death and beauty that each character uses to justify their actions.

Near the end of the film Black Lizzard gives a tour of her museum. She kisses a stuffed human who is naked from the waist up. The "frozen" doll is Yukio Mishima, the famous Japanese writer.

Mishima is the other part of the story. His life is incredible, and one of the best examples I know of hypermasculinty out of control. Mishima was raised as a girl until he was ten. He was overprotected because he was "delicate." He gained recognition as a talented writer in his early twenties, and shortly after the war he achieved fame with his romantic novels written in a cool, classical style.

Mishima was fascinated by female impersonators and Onnagatas, and dated them. When Miwa commented on his slight build he became obsesses with the idea of developing a very beautiful masculine physique. He devoted hours each day to a body building regime "to revive the soul of the Samurai within myself."

After attending one of Miwa's performances in 1970 Mishima presented her with roses stating, "You will never see me again." One week later he (along with four members of his self styled army) seized the Eastern Japanese Army Headquarters. Mishima then addressed the assembled garrison and exhorted them to follow him in overthrowing the government, and returning to the rule of the Imperial Japanese Government, led by the Emperor and defended by Samurai warriors.





The garrison jeered and threw rocks at him. Mishima retreated and committed Seppuku—ritual suicide. Mishima's act is nearly identical to that of the hero in his novel Runaway Horses. That is the second novel of a tetralogy called The Sea of Tranquility. The four novels follow several individuals through numerous reincarnations. The novel's hero committs a terrorist act, and just before committing suicide he states: "Maybe I ought to be reborn as a woman. If I were a woman I could live without chasing after illusions."

And so, Miwa allowed femininity to emerge, and nourished it. Mishima suppressed it and pursued an exaggerated masculine illusion, with tragic consequences. It would be a mistake to say that Mishima's gender conflict was the only cause of his tragic ending. He was a very complicated individual... but who knows what might have happened if he had allowed his feminine side to emerge.

Irecommend that following your viewing of *Black Lizzard* you see *Mishima–A Life in Four Chapters*. It is a stunning, beautifully told story that I'm sure most readers of LadyLike will find interesting. It can be obtained from Columbia Video Club. Black Lizzard can be obtained from T.L.A. Video, 1520 Locust Street, Suite 200, Philadelphia, PA 19102.

Thanks to Shinobu in Japan for her input and suggestions on this review. Thanks to Janet Powers for her editorial advice.

Next time, crossdressing as a way to escape poverty, as revealed in the BBS documentary Ladyboys, The Katoi of Thailand. Don't miss it.



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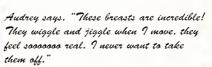
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#### International Foundation for Gender Education,

PO Box 229, Waltham, MA 02254. Publishes Transgender Tapestry (\$40/year subscription). Reprints and books on TV/TS subjects, other info. Hosts annual conference in different locations around the country. Phone: 617-899-2212. < i f g e @ w o r l d . s t d . c o m > < h t t p : // www.transgender.org/tg/ifge/>

Renaissance Educatian Associatian, Inc.,  $987~\mathrm{Old}$ Eagle School Rd., Suite 719, Wayne, Pa. 19087. 610-975-9119 24 hr. answering machine, but phones are answered personally on Monday and Thursday evenings. Membership fee of \$24 includes a 24-page monthly newsletter Renaissance News & Views. Also publishes Background Papers and Community Outreach Bulletins on transgender issues for personal and professional use. Speakers available for classroom, corporate, or media discussions of transgender issues. Renaissance currently has four chapters and seven affiliates. Affiliates are noted with "(!)" in the list below. Renaissance is a 501[c][3] non-profit membership organization. <angela@ren.org> <ahttp://www.ren.org>

Society for the Second Self (SSS), Box 194, Tulare, CA 93275. Focused on families and relationships. Tri-Ess publishes the Femme Mirror quarterly and hosts an annual convention. Tri-Ess chapters are marked with "#" in the list below. Tri-Ess is a non-profit membership organization. <jeftris@aol.com> < http://www.firstnethou.com/brenda>

#### Alabama

Madison County Gender Center, c/o Metropolitan Community Church, 3015 Sparkman Drive NW, Huntsville AL 35810. Phone: 205-851-6914. <keriala@aol.com>.

#### Alaska

Alaska T People, c/o Bobbie Wendy Tucey, P.O. Box 670349, Chugiak, 99567

#### Arizana

Alpha Zeta#, PO Box 1738, Tempe, 85280-1738. Phone: 602-488-0959; <sss@tri-ess.org>.

A Rose, PO Box 1738, Tempe, 85280-1738. Phone: 602-488-0959.

Evolvere, Tucson, AZ. Phone: (520) 884-0541 <SharleneA@aol.com>

Tau Upsilon#, 8802 E Broadway Blvd. #145, Tucson, 85710. Phone: (520) 296-3472.

#### California

3rd Sect (FtM support), write c/o Sacto. Gender

Assoc., PO Box 215456, Sacramento, 95821-1456, <stymie@netcom.com>.

Alpha Chapter#, PO Box 36091, Los Angeles, 90036.

American Transsexual Education Center: A.T.E.C, 1626 N. Wilcox Ave, #584, Hollywood CA 90028 Amanda Silvestri, Dir., Phone: (213) 389-6938.

Androgyny, PO Box 480740, Los Angeles, 90048, Phone: 213-467-8317, <Shirley@earthlink.net>.

Androgyny East, Inland Empire area. Call 909-737-5889 ask for Sara, <michelle@pe.net>.

Born Free, PO Box 52829, Riverside, CA 92517 Phone: 909-875-2687.

CHIC, PO Box 8487, Long Beach, 90808, <CHICSoCal@aol.com>.

Diablo Valley Girls, PO Box 272885, Concord, 94527-2885. Phone: (510) 937-8432 7-9 pm.

ETVC, PO Box 426486, San Francisco, 94142-6486, <a href="https://www.transgender.org/tg/etvc/etvc1.html">www.transgender.org/tg/etvc/etvc1.html</a>.

Gender Expressions, PO Box 816, Lakewood, CA 90714-0816. Phone: (310) 869-4241

Ladies Knight Out, P O Box 19608-179, Irvine CA 92713, CD couples' support, (714) 262-9105.

Neutral Corner, P O Box 12581, San Diego CA 92112. Phone: (619) 685-3696.

Omega Chi# (Orange County, CA), P O Box 1088, Yorba Linda CA 92686.

Powder Puffs of California, PO Box 1088, Yorba Linda, 92686, <www.ren.org/ppoc.html>.

Rainbow Gender Alliance, PO Box 700730, San Jose, 95170-0730, <www.transgender.org/tg/rga/rgapage.html>.

Sacramento Gender Assoc., PO Box 215456, Sacramento, 95821, <a href="mailto:ava4sga@aol.com">ava4sga@aol.com</a>>.

San Joaquin Gender Assoc., 1141 Catalina Drive Box 163, Livermore CA 94550. (510) 447-9920.

Sigma Sigma Beta#, PO Box 19933, So. Lake Tahoe, CA 96151.

Swan's Inner Sorority, P O Box 1423, San Jose CA 95109. Phone: (408) 297-1423

TGIF, meets in Santa Rosa. Call 707-544-1540 or <gad@crl.com>.

Transsexual Support Group, The Center Long Beach, 2017 East 4th Street, Long Beach, CA. 90814.

TS Support Group in Fresno. MtF or FtM - Call Canie @ 209-275-8944

Thursday Irregulars, c/o Joan Sheldon, P O Box 6541, San Jose CA 95150-6541.

Tr: Chi# , P O Box 194, Tulare CA 93275. Phone: 209) 688-9246.

#### Calarada

Delta#, PO Box 16208, Denver, 80216. Phone: (303) 595-5TR1 < mystie@aol.com>.

Identity Center, Inc., 1455 Ammons Street, Suite 100, Lakewood, CO 80215 <kathyw@fortnet.org>.

Phoenix Project 1740 South Buckley Road, #6-178, Aurora CO 80017.

Teenage Kids of TSs, TAKOTS, c/o Laurie Ciccotello, 1740 S. Buckley Road #6-178, Aurora CO 80017.

#### Cannecticut

Connecticut Outreach Society, PO Box 163, Farmington, 06034. Phone (203) 657-4344 <karacder@aol.com>.

connecticuTView (!), PO Box 2281, Devon, 06460. <MasonD@aol.com>, <www.ren.org/ctv.html>.

Twenty (XX) Club Inc.(TS), PO Box 387, Hartford, 06141-0387, <www.intelleng.com/xx.html>

Images, P O Box 666, Thompson CT 06241-0666. Phobe: (203) 779-9708 (voice and FAX)

Gender Identity Clinic of New England, GICNE, 68 Adelaide Road, Manchester CT 06040. Clinton R. Jones, Director. Phone: 203-646-8651.

#### Delawar

Renaissance, Delaware Chapter, PO Box 5656, Wilmington, 19808, 302-376-1990 <sadecd@aol.com><www.ren.org>.

#### Flarida

Animas, P O Box 420309, Miami 33242.

Eden Society, P.O. Box 203, Deerfield Beach, FL 33443-0203. Phone 305-247-6254 (Lee), <edents@aol.com>.

Enchanté, Clearwater area. Call 813-533-0012 Gamma Chi Beta#, Gulf Coast Belles, PO Box 510045, Punta Gorda, FL 33951

Gender Society of the Palm Beaches c/o Compass, 1700 N Dixie Hiway, W Palm Beach, FL 33407. Phone: 561-833-3638 < RhondaWil@aol.com>.

North Florida Sisters (NFS), PO Box 5765, Jacksonville Fl 32247-5765, <cdarica@aol.com>.

Phi Epsilon Mu#, PO Box 3261, Winter Park, 32790-3261. Phone: 407-382-8389 <denisesfl@aol.com>. Serenity, PO Box 307, Hollywood, 33022. Phone:

(954) 436-9477.

Starburst, P O Box 17411, Clearwater 33762-0411. Phone: 813-523-8760 < Georgia ES@aol.com>.

TLC#/Pantra, P O Box 3426, Tallahassee 32315-3426, petrad@freenet.tlh.fl.us>.

#### Geargia

AGE(!), PO Box 77562, Atlanta, 30357, Ph: 770-435-4203, <www.transgender.org/tg/age/ index html>

Sigma Epsilon#, PO Box 272, Rosewell, 30077-0272, Ph: 770-552-4415.

#### Hawaii

Hawaii Transgender Outreach, PO Box 4530, Honolulu, 96812. Phone: (808) 923-4270 <tghawaii@poi.net>.

#### Idaha

Idaho Transgender Society, PO Box 7353, Boise, Idaho 83707-1353 Phone: 208-331-6669. <caufo@micron.net> or <alicialp@aol.com>.

#### lawo

Iowa Artistry, PO Box 75, Cedar Rapids, 52406 River City Gender Alliance, RCGA, P O Box 680, Council Bluffs IA 51502. 402-398-1255.

#### Illinais

Central Illinois Gender Assoc., PO Box 182, Washington, 61517. Phone: (309) 444-9918.

Chi#, PO Box 40, Wood Dale, 60191-0040. Phone: (630) 262-8707

Chicago Gender Society, PO Box 578005, Chicago, 60657, (708) 863-7714, <www.transgender.org/tg/cgs/cgsmain.html>

Outpost TransGender Group, 123 W Church Champaign, IL 61825. (217)-359-5113

Sunday Society , P O Box 478850, Chicago IL 60647. Phone: (312) 486-3125 or (312) 252-7024.

#### Indiana

IXE, PO Box 20710, Indianapolis, 46220. (812) 876-5635 (Gloria), (812) 460-0694 (Gerri), Voice mail (317) 971-6976 <i xe@aol.com>.

T.O.N.I., Transgender Outreach of Northern Indiana, Ltd, PO Box 2372, Portage, IN 46368. 219-929-8533

#### Kansas

KC Crossdressers & Friends, PO Box 4092, Overland Park, 66204. Phone: (913) 791-3847

Wichita Transgender Alliance, POB 3002, Wichita KS 67201.(316) 688-0816. <a href="mailto:kgpage-401.com">kgpage-401.com</a>>.

#### Kentucky

Bluegrass Belles,PO Box 20173, Louisville, Ky 40250. <Dwils00@ukcc.ukv.edu>.

Louisville Gender Society, Box 5458, Louisville, 40255. Phone: (812) 944-5570 - Barbara, (502) 458-8028 - Patti, or (502) 966-8701 - Lori.

#### Lavisiana

Gulf Gender Alliance(!), P.O. Box 56836, New Orleans, LA 70156-6836. Phone: (504) 833-3046 <allyen@concentric.net>.

#### Maine

Maine Gender Resource & Support, c/o Jean Churchill, PO Box 1894, Bangor ME 04402-1894.

Transsupport, PO Box 17622, Portland, 04101.

#### Maryland

The Bridge Club, c/o Michelle Gerald, P O Box 11737, Baltimore MD 21206-0337.

Transgender Support Group of Baltimore, c/o Gay and Lesbian Community Center of Baltimore, 241 W. Chase St., Baltimore MD 21201. Phone: (410) 837-5445, or switchboard 7-10pm (410) 837-8888.

Tri-State Transgendered Club, c/o Diane Terrant, PO Box 3102, Deer Park MD 21550-1002. Phone: (301) 453-3538.

Washington - Baltimore Alliance, PO Box 1994 Silver Spring Maryland, 20915. <HGarfin725@aol.com>.

#### Massachusetts

AXA P O Box 380547, Cambridge MA 02238.

continued next page

### Resources

Berkshire Alternatives, PO Box 508, North Adams, 01247

Gender Identity Support Services for Transsexuals, (G.I.S.S.T.) Phone: (617) 720-3413.

Getting Real, PO Box 194, West Newton, 02165. Innvestments, (Cape Cod area), PO Box 2194,

Orleans, 02653.

Reflections, PO Box 4002, East Dedham, 02026.

Sunshine Club.P.O. Box 564, Hadley, MA 01035-

0564. 413-586-5004 <AE907@yfn.ysu.edu>. Tiffany Club of New England, Inc., PO Box 2283, Woburn, 01888. (617) 891-9325 <www.tcne.org/>

Transgendered Alliance, (TGA), PO Box 38-1005, Cambridge, 02238.

#### Michigan

Crossroads, PO Box 1245, Royal Oak, 48068-1245. Phone: (313) 537-3267

IME of Western Michigan, PO Box 1153, Grand Rapids, 49501. <www.iserv.net/~ime>

Gender Explorers, c/o Office of Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Transgender Affairs, 3116 Michigan Union, Ann Arbor, Michigan 48109-1349

#### Minnesota

Beta Gamma#, PO Box 8591, Minneapolis, MN 55408. (612) 8708536, ,triessbg@tri-ess.com..

CLCC, PO Box 14844, Minneapolis, 55414-0844. Phone: (612) 229-3613 <a href="mailto:clcc@topcity.com">clcc@topcity.com</a>.

MFGE, PO Box 17945, St. Paul, 55117. Phonė: (612) 220-9072 (voicemail).

New Men & Women of Minnesota, PO Box 6432, Minneapolis, 55406-0432. Phone: (612) 220-1920.

#### Mississippi

AURORA Transgender Support (Central Mississippi), PO Box 1306, Florence MS 39073. Phone: (601) 845-1328 or <KBrown3813@aol.com>.

Beta Chi#, PO Box 31253, Jackson, 39286-1253. Phone: (601) 982-7678 (24 hrs).

#### Missour

St. Louis Gender Foundation, PO Box 9433, St. Louis, 63117,(314) 367-4128. < StLGF@aol.com>.

#### Nebraska

River City Gender Alliance, P. O. Box 3112, Omaha 68103. 402-398-1255, <sgibbons@synergy.net>.

#### Nevada

Equinox, 1545 S Wells Ave #200 Reno, Nevada 89502. <a href="mailto:<a href="mailto:square"><a href="ma

Silver Rose Gender Association. Contact, Lynda Cheney, P.O. Box 1334 Carson City, NV, 89702

Theta Upsilon Gamma#, PG Box 91871, Henderson, 89009-1871. <sage@intermind.net>.

Transgender Support, Las Vegas, c/o Community Counseling Center, 1120 Almond Tree Lane (702) 392-2132, <a href="mailto:sistag696@aol.com">sistag696@aol.com</a>>.

#### New Hampshire

GT North PO Box 421, Peterborough, NH 03458. Contact Pat Wells < gtnorth@top.monad.net>.

#### New Jersey

C.A.T.S. (Community Alliance of Transsexuals), P.O. Box 557, Browns Mills, NJ 08015. Phone: 609-702-0098. <nj5.injersey.com/~jkmiller>

Chi Delta Mu#, PO Box 1, River Edge, 07661-0001. Phone: 800-484-7593 (code 4985), <cdm@carroll.com>.

MOTG(!), PO Box 8243, Red Bank, 07701. Phone: (908) 219-9094, or <Vikkimmotg@aol.com>.

NJ Support, (Washington Crossing) — contact Susan W. at PO Box 0034, Montville, NJ 07045. Phone: (973) 334-0416, <Susanw796@aol.com>.

Sigma Nu Rho#, 1092 St. Georges Ave., Suite 234, Rahway, NJ 07065. 800-480-3152, <tris@mcione.com>.

#### New Mexico

Phi (Fiesta!)#, 8200 Montgomery NE, #241, Albuquerque, 87109. Phone: (505) 299-2533.

#### **New York**

Bi-gender self-help group meets 2nd Monday of month from 6 - 8 PM in Lower Manhattan. Contact Lynda Frank at 212-765-3561.

Buffalo Belles#, NuPhiChi, PO Box 1701, Amherst, 14226. Phone: (716) 643-2626.

CD-Network, PO Box 92055, Rochester, 14692. Phone: (716) 251-2132.

EON Inc., PO Box 3586, Syracuse, NY 13220-3586. Phone: (315) 423-4099.

Gender Identity Project, Lesbian and Gay Community Services Center, 208 West 13th Street, New York, 10011. Phone: (212) 620-7310.

Lambda Chi Lambda#, PO Box 1010, Cooperstown, 13326. (607) 547-4118, <StuComOne@aol.com>.

L.L.F.E.,Box 1311, Wayermill, NY 11976-1311. (516) 283-1333, <loEd2Viola@aol.com>.

Metropolitan Gender Network(!), 561 Hudson St., Box 45, New York, 10014. Phone: (201) 794-1665 ext. 332, or (718) 461-9050.

Rochester Transgender Organization. Meets on 2nd and 4th Saturday.Contact Perette at 716-442-2425

\TGIC, PO Box 13604, Albany, 12212-3604. Phone: (518) 436-4513.

Transgender Society of Northern New York, PO Box 413, Beaver Falls, NY 13305. Phone: 315-376-7662.

#### North Carolina

Kappa Beta#, PO Box 12101, Charlotte, 28220-2101. Phone: (704) 565-5034 <dajones@InfoAve.net>.

Phoenix Transgender Support, PO Box 18332, Asheville, 28814. Phone: (704) 259-9428.

Tau Gamma#, P.O.Box 25282, Raleigh, NC 27611

Triad Gender Assoc., PO Box 2264, Jamestown 27282. 910-454-1493, <dula@nr.infi.net>.

#### Ohi

Alpha Omega#, PO Box 2053, Sheffield Lake, 44054-0053. Phone: (216) 556-0067.

Cross-Port, PO Box 1692, Cincinnati OH 4520. (606) 581-3711. < WGBN68D@prodigy.com>.

Crystal Club, PO Box 287, Columbus, 43068. Phone: (614) 231-1368, <cc@stargate.com>.

Glass City Sisters, PO Box 8532, Toledo, 43623.

Paradise Club, PO Box 29564, Parma, 44129. paradisedi@aol.com>.

#### Oklahoma

Central Oklahoma Transgender Alliance, (COTA), PO Box 60354, Oklahoma City, 73146.

#### Oregon

Choices and Voices, 212 High St., Salem, Oregon 97303. (503) 373-4415 cpcb4reb@sprynet.com>.

Intermountain Transgender Outreach, 1524 Monroe Avenue, La Grande.541-963-7732, <keol@eosc.osshe.edu>.

Phoenix Rising Foundation, The Trans Group (for TS/TG/TV and questioning youth), 620 SW 5th Ave., Suite 710, Portland, Oregon 97204. Phone: (503) 223-8299.

North West Gender Alliance, PO Box 4928, Portland, 97208.(503) 646-2802 <nwga@teleport.com>.

Trans-Port, PO Box 66913, Portland, 97290. Phone: (503) 774-8463.

Capital City Chapter, PO Box 3312, Salem, OR 97302 (please include an SSAE).

#### Pennsylvania

Erie Sisters, 1903 West 8th Street/Suite 261, Erie, PA 16505. <esc@csonline.net>.

Gemini, P.O. Box 281, Franklin, PA 16323. Phone: (814) 432-7792 <gemini@mail.usachoice.net>.

The Gender Group of Pittsburgh at the Persad Center, 5150 Penn Ave, Pittsburgh, PA 15232. Contact Cheryl at: 412-362-1638

Gender Transgressors, c/o Ben Singer, 1123 W. Orianna Street, Philadelphia, PA 19123. Phone: 215-922-5943 <br/> bensinger@eden.rutgers.edu>.

OASIS, PO Box 622, Meadville, PA 16335.

Phila. TS Support Group , PO Box 15839, Philadelphia PA 19103. Phone: (215) 567-7879.

Renaissance GPC, Greater Phila. Chapter, 987 Old Eagle School Rd., Suite 719, Wayne, 19087. Phone: (610) 975-9119, <angela@ren.org>.

Renaissance LSV, Lower Susquehanna Valley Chapter, PO Box 2122, Harrisburg, 17105. Phone: (717) 780-1578. <lsv@ezonline.com>.

Renaissance LV, Lehigh Valley Chapter, PO Box 3624, Allentown, PA 18106. Call 610-821-2955 for directions < Monal.aura@AOL.com>.

TransFamily, c/o Ďeni Scott, 962 Rockdale Road, Butler, PA 16001. Phone: 412-758-3578 (Janet) <dscott@pgh.net>.

TSG (Transsexual Support Group), 6020 Penn Circle South, Pittsburgh, 15206. Phone: (412) 661-7030. <tsg@usaor.net>.

Transpitt, PO Box 3214, Pittsburgh, 15230. Phone: (412) 224-6015.

#### Tennessee

index.html>

Alpha Pi Omega#, PO Box 784, Brentwood, 37204 Tennessee Vals, PO Box 92335, Nashville, 37209. Phone: 664-6883, <www.transgender.org/tg/tvals/

Memphis TransGender Alliance, P.O. Box 11052, Memphis, TN 38111-0052

#### Texas

Alpha Tau, (Austin), PO Box 2753, Cedar Park, 78630-2753. (512) 331-5147. [9704]

Austin Second Image, PO Box 14965, Austin, 78761. Phone: (512) 515-5460 Wed. 7-9pm.

Boulton & Park Society, PO Box 17, Bulverde, 78163. (830) 980-7788 < www.flash.net/~txtp/>

Central Texas Transgender Society, 2900 W. Anderson Lane, Suite 127, Austin, Texas 78757 Phone: 512/451-7763 < Bobbi@ccsi.com>.

GCTC, PO Box 90335, Houston, 77090. Phone: (713) 780-GCTC, (713) 780-4282 voice.

Metroplex CD Club/Delta Omega#, Bldg 106, Ste 144, 7120 Rufe Snow Dr, Wautauga, TX 76148-1862. (214) 264-7103, <domiss@flash.net>.

Nu Epsilon Tau#, PO Box 14096, Pantego, 76094. (214) 490-5738,

ReCast, PO Box 224001, Dallas, 75222-4001.

Texas Assoc. of Transsexuals (TATs), PO Box 142, Bellaire, 77401. Phone: (713) 827-5913 voice mail.

Tau Chi#, 8800 Bellaire B2, Ste. 104, Houston, TX 77036. <TriSlnfo@aol.com>.

West Texas Gender Alliance c/o Tami Maloney, PO Box 6726, Abilene TX 79608.

#### Utah

Salt Lake Gender Consortium, PO Box 651073, Salt Lake City, 84165. [9707]

Reflection House, PO Box 628, Pleasant Grove. 84062. Phone/FAX: (801) 224-4737.

#### Virginia

Ladies First, 7138 Little River Tumpike, Ste. 1820, Annandale, VA 22003. Contact Laura Meeks at 540-720-7523 < Laurabcd@aol.com>.

Metro Area Gender Alliance, MAGA, PO Box 16036, Arlington, 22215. Phone: (301) 949-3822.

Richmond Transformers - Transforming Female to Male - C/O Gray - Phone (804) 288-5502 [9709]

TransGender Education Association (TGEA), P.O. Box 16036, Arlington, Virginia 22215. Phone:(301) 949-3822 <TGEA@aol.com>.

#### Washington (state)

Emerald City, PO Box 31318, Seattle, 98103. (206) 284-1071, <members.aol.com/theemcty/>

Futurebuilders, c/o April Bresgal, N. 111 Cedar St., Spokane, WA 99201. Phone: 509–456-2517.

Ingersoll Gender Center, 1812 E. Madison, Suite 106, Seattle, 98122 <ingersol@halycon.com>.

Papillon TG Support, PO Box 1365, Spokane, WA. (509) 458-2741 <papillonsg@geocities.com>

Transsexual Lesbians & Friends, TLF, Seattle (no street addressd). Phone: (206) 292-1037.

#### West Virginia

The Valley Girls, PO Box 181, Dunbar, WV 2506+0181. Phone (304) 340-3512 [9707].

Trans-WV, PO Box 2322, Huntington, WV 25724.

#### Wisconsin

Gemini Gender Group, PO Box 44211, Milwaukee, 53214. Phone: (414) 297-9328 (voicemail).

#### Wyoming

Central WY Transgender Support Group, P.O. Box 1301, Evansville, WY 82636-1301

## Canadian Support Groups

#### Canada

#### Alberta

Phi Sigma#, PO Box 81115, 755 Lake Bonavista Dr SE, Calgary, T2J 7C9.

Illusions Club (peer support & info), PO Box 2000, Calgary, T2C 1B4. Phone: +1 (403) 236-7072.

Illusions Club II (peer support & info), Box 1852, Edmonton T5J 2P2

#### **British Columbia**

Dream Girls, P.O. Box 535, Kamloops, V2C 5L7. Combury Society, PO Box 3745, Vancouver, V6B 3Z1, Phone: 604-415-2767. Foundation for the Advancement of Trans-Gendered People's Society (FATE) 1-1727 William Street, Vancouver, V5L 2R5. Phone: +1 (604) 254-9591.

Zenith Foundation, 8415 Granville Street, PO Box 46, Vancouver, V6P 4Z9.

#### Manitoba

Prairie Rose Gender Club, PO Box 23 Grp 4 RR1, Dugald, ROE OKO. Phone: +1 (204) 257-2759.

#### Ontario

Canadian Cross Dressers Club, c/o Wildside, 161 Gerrard St. E, Toronto M5A 2E4. Phone: +1 (416) 921-6112, or email to info@wildside.org. Gender Metaphor, 829 Northwest Road, Suite 715, Kingston, Ontario K7P-2N3. Contact by email only at this time genmet@adan.kingston.net.

Gender Mosaic, PO Box 7421, Ottawa, K1L 8E4. Phone: +1 (819) 770-1945 or email to:gender\_mosaic@canadamail.com.

Transition Support, c/o The Church Street Community Centre, 519 Church Street, Toronto, M4Y 2C9.

Street Outreach Services, SOS, 622 Yonge St., 2nd Fl, Toronto, M4Y 1Z8. Phone: +1 (416) 926-0744 (24 hours).

Xpressions, P.O. Box 223, Station A, Toronto, M5W 1B2, Voice mail: +1 (416) 812-6879.

#### Quebec

Club MET, 4113 Dorion St., Montreal, H2K 3B8. Phone: +1 (514) 528-8874

FACT - Quebec, PO Box 293, 5858 Cote-de-Neiges Boulevard, Montreal, H3S 286.

TransPORRS (Post Op Recovery Residence), 475 Blvd Gouin Ouest, Montreal, H3L 1K4.

### THE COMMUNITY CALENDAR

#### February '98

**6–8, Exposed!**, 9th Annual University of California Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender Association Conference, PorterCollege, UCSC. The conference theme reflects the necessity of exposure of LGBT issues through the curriculum, in the arts, within student affairs and on the faculty and staff.

20–22, Across the Fruited Plain, The 1998 Midwest Bisexual Lesbian Gay Transgender College Conference. Contact: MBLGTCC-98 Program Committee OGLBC (M/C 369), 1007 West Harrison St 4078 BSB, Chicago, IL 60607-7140.Fax: 312-996-4688, or email: mblgcc98@uic.edu

20–22, True Spirit Conference '98 [FtM issues], The Best Western-Maryland Inn, Laurel, Maryland. Contact, <www.netgsi.com/~listwrangler"> AmericanBoyz, PO Box 1118, Elkton, MD, 21922-1118 or email us at: ransman@netgsi.com.

26–3/2, The Texas T Party, 10th Anniversary celebration. Texas "T" Party - PO Box 17, Bulverde, Texas 78163 Phone or Fax: (830) 980-7788 <web2.airmail.net/vidaloca/txtp/>

#### March '98

**6, Northeast Regional Pride** (NERP) Conference, Philadelphia, PA. Contact Diversity of Pride, 262 S 12th St, #404, Phila., Pa. Call 215-351-5315.

**24–29**, Crossing Borders, 1998 IFGE Convention in Toronto, Ontario, Canada. For more info contact IFGE, P.O. Box 229, Waltham, MA 0224-0229. Call 781-899-2212

27–29, TransPositions: Toward Transgender Studies, Cornell University. Contact: Richard Juang, Department of English, Goldwin Smith Hall Cornell University Ithaca, NY 14853, rmi8@cornell.edu

#### April '98

**3–5, 1998 Eastern Region Meeting,** Society for the Scientific Study of Sexuality in Boston, Mass. Contact: Jean Levitan, Ph.D., Dept. of Community Health, Wm. Paterson U. of NJ, Wayne, NJ 07470. Phone: 973-720-2216. FAX: 973-721-2215

3–5,5th International Bisexual Conference, Cambridge, Mass. Contact Biversity Boston, c/o Gay Community News, 229 Stanhope St., Boston, MA 02116. Call: (617)424-9595, <info@biconf.org>.

24–6, Midwest Trans Institute, Social, Political, and Educational Hobnobbing for Gender Transgressors and Our Friends. Contact: MWTRANS, P.O. Box 2104 Loop Station, Minneapolis, MN 55402-0104. 612-362-3581 (voice/tty) 612-871-2650 (FAX). <MWTRANS@aol.com>.

**30–5/3, California Dreamin' 1998**, Golden Gateway Holiday Inn, San Francisco, Calif. Contact PPOC, PO Box 1088, Yorba Linda, CA 92686, or ETVC, PO Box 426486, San Francisco, 94142

#### May '98

**7–10, Gender Mosaic 10th Anniversary** Party. For those of you who have been looking for an excuse for a three day outing, this would be the time. Ottawa is one of the most Transgender Friendly places you are likely to find. There is lots to do and see here.

**20–24, 9th Annual Esprit**, Port Angeles, Washington. Contact Esprit, PO Box 1101, Renton, WA 98057.

**28–31, TCNE Spring Fling**, in Provincetown, Mass. Tiffany Club of New England, Inc., PO Box 2283, Woburn, 01888-0483. Phone: (617) 891-9325

#### **June '98**

7, 6th Annual Queens Lesbian and Gay Pride and Street Festival, Jackson Hts, NY. Contact Queens Lesbian and Gay Pride Committee, PO Box 580445, Flushing NY 11358. Phone: 718-997-6778 < johnqlgpc@aol.com>.

**10–14**, **16th Annual Be All** You Want to Be Weekend Pittsburgh, PA. Hosted by Transpitt, P.O. Box 15408, Pittsburgh PA 15237, 412-242-5902.

**20**, Pittsburgh PrideFest '98, Pittsburgh, Pa. Festival in Mellon Park. Contact Three Rivers Pride, PO Box 81207, Pbgh, PA 15217. 412-422-3060.

**28**, **29th Annual New York City Pride** March, New York City, NY. 212-80-PRIDE.

#### July '98

**15–19**, **S.P.I.C.E.**: Spouse/Partners International Conference for Education

in Atlanta, GA. For info call 510-235-7450 Pacific Time; 918-343-1953 Central Time; 215-860-9271 Eastern Time or <melpeg@phoenix.net>.

#### August '98

22–29, Dignity Cruise X sailing on the the new Vision Of The Sea from Barcelona to Cannes/MonteCarlo, Corsica, Rome, Sicily and Malta The enfemme experience of a lifetime! - \$1200-\$1450 Limited Space - call Brenda at Cruises, Inc. 1-800-247-7021 or <melpeg@phoenix.net>.

#### September '98

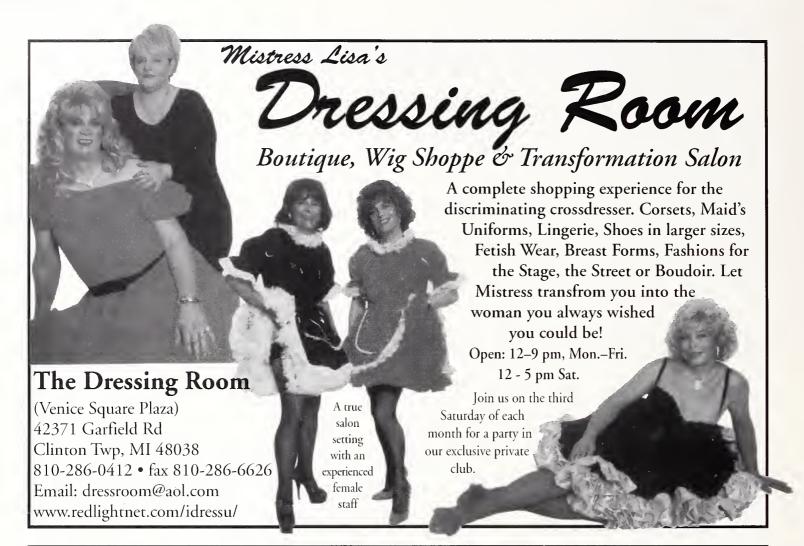
24–27, Paradise In The Poconos, fantasy getaway weekend. Contact CDS, PO Box 61263, King of Prussia, PA 19406, call 610-640-9449 <poco@cdspub.com>.

**30–10/4**, Southern Comfort Conference, Holiday Inn Atlanta Central, Atlanta, GA. Call 404-633-6470, or write to SCC, PO Box 77591, Atlanta, GA 30357-1591 <sccatl@aol.com>.

#### October '98

**28–11/01, Holiday En Femme**, Minneapolis, MN, Beta Gamma Chapter, PO Box 8591, Minn., MN 55408. Call 612-870-8536, or <triessbg@triess.com>.

If you have information about an event that you'd like us to post here and online, please write to us at the CDS office or send email to us at: "info@cdspub.com"



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# Then & Now



▲ Rachel Jean Tracy, Fla., 1977 FWD1902



▲ Rachel Jean Tracy, Fla., 1977



▲ Rachel Jean Tracy, Fla., 1997



▲ Rachel Jean Tracy, Fla., 1997



A Revanna Rose (l.) 1972 (5 yrs. old) & sister (r.)



## Part 2 The New Amy

#### A true life story—Part 2

Our next stop was an understanding tailor in downtown Philadelphia. Good clothes need to be well-fitting, and while most items fit me, some items had to be adjusted to hang properly. Skirts had to be shortened; jackets had to be modified for my "male" body. So, I had to again try on the few pieces we held back as the tailor pinned and marked the items. He altered some of these overnight for us.

It was then backed to the mall, where Lynda helped me select a pair of frames for my feminine looking eyeglasses. Lynda would pick out several options which I tried on, then narrowed them down with me. The young girl behind the counter did not at first understand the mission, and kept moving the selection to masculine looking frames. Lynda, with full confidence, then informed the girl that she wanted more feminine looking glasses for a special project, never once embarrassing me. The clerk understood, and was glad to accommodate. She secured my prescription, and mailed the glasses, as I had a special bi-focal.

By then, it was getting quite late. Lynda drove me back to my hotel, and I crashed for the night, exhausted after a full day of shopping.

The next morning I slept in for a while, but Lynda was there around 9:00 am to take me shoe shopping. Another nice experience as we went to a shop in the suburbs that only handles wide shoes. Thirty thousand pairs of them! In all sizes up to 15 extra wide.

I wear men's 12D's, so getting women's shoes always was a seemingly insurmountable problem. I had actually given up ordering by mail, and could never find them in stores as this equates to a woman's 14 wide. But at this shoe store, no problem. First she had me try on black shoes. At least ten different styles! And 8 or more each in browns, bone, navy, and white. I went in hoping to buy one pair that might fit, came out with four pairs, one of which I took, and three shipped. This family owned business is CD friendly, and treats you with the utmost courtesy and respect.

Well, I now had all the shopping done for which I came. I had a new wardrobe for the new me. Classy clothes, classy shoes and classy accessories.

But one final stop. That was to Lynda's salon in her apartment to get a "transformation." She fitted me with properly sized nails, glued on to come off easily. And then applied a burnt orange polish to go with my fabulous dress, and cured it just like the nail salons. And then selected and applied makeup to best suit my face. She has a full service salon, so I bought a set of make-up brushes from her as well as some of the cosmetics she used. All items are top quality.

And then to wig selection. I had brought a wig with me, but it was a cheapie. Her's are top quality, and she has perhaps 75 in stock. We tried on several different colors and styles, from fantasy to conservative. I chose two dark auburn ones, at her suggestion. As a last minute thought, I had her wax my chest where the dress scooped down. It was my first experience doing this.

Then on with my clothes, an examination of the glamorous me, and out on the balcony for a few photos to remember the day by. It was mid-afternoon, and I had to catch a flight back home at 5:00 pm. So, after enjoying my new look for a bit, it was time to remove my make-up, pack up my new clothes, put on my male clothes, and head for the airport. All the way back on my flight, I was in heaven.

#### Amy Goes Out

My first time out in my new clothes (it was also my first time out in public) came when I traveled to the Be-All in Chicago. It was a nice, early June weekend, not too hot. Being a four day event, I was able to wear many of the outfits I had bought, the swimsuit at the opening night pool party, the summer dresses, the skirts and tops, the navy outfit and coverup on a Lake Michigan boat ride, the long party dress, and the matching shoes, accessories, and hairpieces that I had gotten in Philadelphia.

When I returned home from the Be-All, I found on my bed a make-up case, and other items with a friendship card addressed to Amy from my best lady friend. I will never forget the Be-All or coming home to those gifts.

#### Amy Follows Up

A few weeks later, I had to be in Baltimore on business. So I decided to take an extra day to see Lynda again. After finishing my morning meeting, I hopped aboard the 1:30 Metroliner for an hour's trip to Philadelphia, again coming into 30th Street station, and then taking a cab to the Adams

continued on next page

### AMY...

Mark Hotel. I called Lynda, as we had prearranged, and she came over to pick me up.

But this time I had decided I wanted to go shopping en femme. So I dressed in a summer skirt and top, stockings and white sandals. I applied eye cosmetics, lipstick and nail polish, and my wig. Summer mall wear. Then I walked out of the hotel by myself dressed that way to Lynda's car. That evening, we went back to the shoe store to buy a couple more pairs of summer, less dressy shoes. Then on to my favorite place, the corset shop. Last time I had bought several items, this time I wanted more.

I tried on what seemed like everything in the store. I bought a couple of slips, some nighties, and filled in with some other bras and undergarments. I even bought a 42A bra that fits me perfectly without my breast forms! I had never seen that size before. (It makes me feel good without my prostheses on, as I do have enough natural tissue to fill it.) We also stopped at an outlet mall that evening, and looked around at various stores as I wanted to buy a wrist watch. I didn't find one here, however.

I had a good night's sleep, and woke the next morning refreshed. My first taste of shopping en femme had gone well, but today was to be the real test. I dressed again with light makeup and wig, then decided to have breakfast in the hotel restaurant. So I confidently walked through the lobby, sat down and ordered. No one did a double take, although I am sure that was because I was correctly dressed so not to draw attention to being large and tall. That was not to say I passed, just that the other guests didn't notice, or care.

Lynda picked me up later in the morning, and we drove to the big mall. I wanted to dress en femme all day in public, and especially in a shopping mall to see how people reacted. Again, Lynda was to be my crutch, and I wanted to look at clothes and buy a wristwatch. We found the perfect timepiece that fit me. Then we looked in several more stores for summer clothes. In addition to the anchor stores that I had been in on the earlier trip, we visited other merchants that had what I might be looking for.

In one instance, Lynda discreetly talked to the manager about her service, and my being dressed. We were graciously welcomed, and after making some purchases, were invited back. I even received a personal thank you card when my merchandise arrived at my home, and was again invited to come back.

In each case, the salesladies were kind and gracious,

and helpful. Never did they embarrass me. And there were no other customers who even noticed.

The only person in the whole day that openly "read" me was a young teenage girl who did a double take and stared at me from her mother's car driving away.

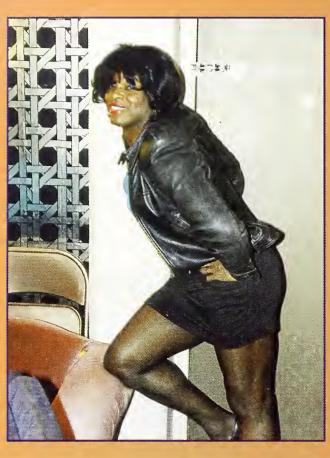
After shopping in the oppressive 95 degree heat that day, we went into downtown Philadelphia for an early dinner at a nice restaurant, probably CD friendly. We enjoyed an excellent meal, with the staff again being most gracious. I was still en femme.

Then it was back to Lynda's to re-dress as a male for my journey back home. I quickly removed my make-up in the partial darkened room, as the heat had caused a power outage in her building. And I packed up my clothes, and headed for the airport and a late evening departure. I felt pretty good that I was able to enjoy this day and a half all dressed up and shopping.

I still feel good each time I dress and go out, because I have this helpful friend, Lynda, who made sure everything I got was right for me.

Amy ▼





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## On My Mind...



As I write this I am concluding my tenure as the chair of the board of the **Renaissance Transgender Association, Inc.** It was my great pleasure to lead the organization that I helped to co-found in 1987 during its 10th anniversary year.

A lot of good things happened for Renaissance in

1997. We hosted the Second International Congress on Sex & Gender Issues. I believe it is fair to say that we are the only transgender-based organization to hold a conference offering Continuing Education Credits for professional attendees. Our ability to offer those credits is a measure of our respectability with the professional accrediting organizations. I personally want to thank Dr. Sheila Kirk, M.D., and Dr. Vern Bullough, Ph.D., R.N., for helping us put together a fabulous program. There is talk of a third Congress in the year 2000. I'll let you know any details as I learn them.

At the conclusion of the Congress, we realized Renaissance had nearly run out of money and had to institute our first "donor" campaign. I am pleased to say our members came through for us. We were able to keep the doors open and the newsletter delivered. That incident made us realize we had some planning to do and Renaissance embarked on a four month effort that resulted in an action-plan for 1998 and beyond. We restructured our dues and subscriptions so that our basic operating costs are covered. Donations for 1998 and beyond will go to real projects, not to someone's salary.

But, we have a number of projects that require jumpstart funding. First up, we're sponsoring a Spouses/ Significant Other counseling program. This is a ten week/twenty-hour program for women having trouble dealing with transgendered spouses, and facilitated by a professionally certified counselor. Renaissance will do the advertising for the program. The program will run twice, once in the suburbs and once in the city. The cost for the suburban program is \$2500 and the Center City program will cost about \$3000.

Our next big project is a counselor certificate project. Working with Dr. William R. Stayton and Dr. Carol

Cobb-Nettleton, two of the most respected gender-counselors on the East Coast, we're developing a syllabus for a program that will earn Continuing Education Credits for professional attendees. The syllabus will cover a wide range of issues, including dealing with tg children, extended-family issues, legal and employment issues, medical issues and more. The program will run over a period of months on weekends with perhaps 30 hours of instruction. The syllabus is under development now and a faculty will be assembled later in the year. The startup cost for this program is estimated at \$7000.

Renaissance has always been in the forefront of transgender education. Our Background Papers and Community Outreach Bulletins set the standard. Even IFGE distributes Renaissance Background Papers. Our goal for 1998 is to have these documents translated into Spanish. There is a huge need for Spanish language information and we'd like to begin the process. The estimated startup cost for this program is \$2000.

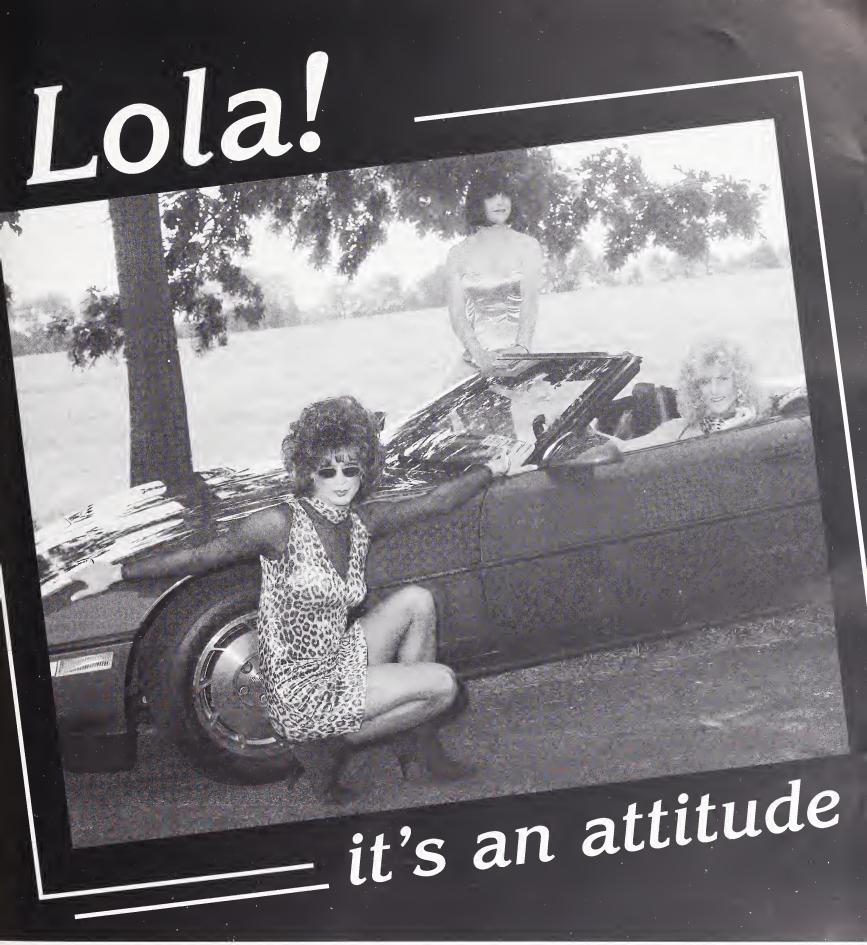
Those are but three of the programs we've developed but not implemented. And they won't get implemented unless we get the money for them. That money may come from grant applications we've written or it may come directly from donations, but it can't come from our basic operation funds, i.e., dues and subscriptions. We need your help to bring these projects to realization. Any donation of any value will be deeply appreciated. You can also buy a lifetime membership for \$500. Any donation in excess of \$500 automatically receives a Lifetime membership. Make your checks payable to Renaissance and send them to the Renaissance office at 987 Old Eagle School Rd., Suite 719, Wayne, PA 19087. Your donation is tax deductible to the extent allowable by law since Renaissance is a 501[c][3] organization.

Remember, your money goes to projects not pockets.

#### A magazine project

I bought a '67 Corvette this summer and I've been having a ball driving it. I'll be publishing a picture of me and my baby in a future issue. I want to see pictures of you and your babies. Send me pix of you and your cars, preferably classic and sports cars. If we get enough, we'll do a special spread called Hot Rods. Send your photos care of the magazine.

JoAnn Roberts



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